

the engineering staff may be utilised to bring minor works to a standard of efficiency.

*Reply of Government.*—Noted.

SUBJECT No. 74.

Recovery of contributions for repairs of tanks as an arrear of land revenue.

Mr. Amble Anniah Pandit, Mysore District Board.

*Summary of discussion.*—As soon as an estimate for repairing a tank is prepared by the Public Works Department and the ryots or nine-tenths of them holding lands thereunder have executed *muchalikas* agreeing to pay the prescribed contribution, the work may be put in hand and the contribution, if not paid within a specified time, recovered as a revenue demand with interest at one pie per rupee per month. In the case of the Malligere tank in the Chamrajnagar Taluk, the ryots have themselves executed *muchalikas* agreeing to the contribution being recovered as an arrear of land revenue in case of default more than two years ago, but the work has not been sanctioned and the Public Works Department is insisting upon the entire amount of contribution being paid up before the work is commenced. Even if there should be any objection to levy contribution compulsorily from ryots that do not agree to it, it does not apply to cases in which ryots are willing to abide by such a condition.

*Mr. Dasappa, Bangalore District Board.*—No rule should be passed regarding the compulsory levy of contribution.

*Reply of Government.*—The case of the Malligere tank referred to by the member will be enquired into. Even under the present rules, Government have allowed works below Rs. 25,000 to be commenced where the full amount of contribution has not been paid and the ryots have executed the necessary *muchalikas*. Each case should be represented separately.

SUBJECT No. 75.

Locking sluices, etc., of tanks and channels.

Messrs. Hutchveere Gowda, Gubbi Taluk; and Hanumantha Rao, Devanhalli Taluk.

*Summary of discussion.*—Under all large tanks there should be a system of locking the channel sluices to prevent the needless waste of water. The *nirganti* is not present at all times and water is taken surreptitiously at night. Each sluice should therefore have a separate lock, and water allowed to be taken only at stated intervals.

*Reply of Government.*—The Deputy Commissioners will be required to ascertain, in consultation with the Public Works Department, the cases in which it is necessary to supply such locks and take the requisite action.

SUBJECT No. 76.

Repairs to branch channels;

Messrs. Padmanna, and Venkatesamiah, Nanjangud Taluk.

*Summary of discussion.*—The present rule directing that the annual repairs of branch channels should be done by ryots is not a good one, as the object of opening branch channels will be frustrated when the ryots neglect to do their work. In the case of the Rampur channel, for instance, the distinction between the main channel and the branch channels has been most arbitrarily made. The repairs of branch channels should also